

COUNCIL FAILS TO ENTHUSE

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Social Evil Petition Does Not

Make a Hit With City Dads

Another Councilman Wants to Know
How Else We Are to Support
the Public School System

MATTER FINALLY REFERRED TO
"INVESTIGATING" COMMITTEE

Allderman Hanley's Somewhat Novel
Views on Question Greeted By
Hisses From the Audience.

At last night's meeting of the city council a committee was appointed consisting of Aldermen Harrison, Walker and Lifield to receive complaints and suggestions and report to the city council on what action to take toward the regulation or suppression of the social evil in Albuquerque. The action was taken as a result of a

The action was taken as a result of a resolution adopted by the council on behalf of the Citizens' Alliance, urged by Attorney A. B. McMillen, asking that the council immediately exercise the power conferred upon it by a territorial statute and take steps to ameliorate the deplorable conditions now prevailing in the city.

The action was taken after a rather warm session following the regular meeting of the council. Mr. McMillen, president of the organization, had informed to start a campaign against vice, asked leave to address the council and made an earnest but sensible speech. He then asked that the council be authorized to talk in which he informed the council of the action. The unanimous sentiment of the better class of citizens in Albuquerque that the council at once take some steps to ameliorate the conditions existing in Albuquerque or prohibiting it altogether.

Mr. McMillen said that he had a petition signed by 369 of the leading citizens of Albuquerque, exclusive of additional communications signed by members of the W. C. T. U. and the Woman's club, asking the council to act.

"There is no need to tell any member of this council the location of the breeding place of this vice," said Mr. McMillen in the course of his remarks.

The very center of our city is notorious and is avoided by all decent people as a pestilence. Its residents flaunt their vice up and down the main streets of the city, on the sidewalk and in carriages, monopolize the highways and public places and make

highways and public places and make it unsafe for a decent woman to walk through the business part of the city. The mothers, sisters and wives of the members of this council shun the lo-

"The time has come when the city of Albuquerque cannot afford to tolerate this thing any longer.

"The council has full power to act in the matter, and the demand of the people is that they do so.

"My remarks are not made in the spirit of criticism. I know through experience, well the difficulties that confront the council in matters like this. I also learned while in the council that the city marshal is a faithful and courageous officer.

and conscientious officer, and always respected his views on this question as well as others. But everyone must realize that the time has come when something must be done."

Mr. McMillen quoted from chapter 84 of the territorial laws of 1901, in which the city authorities are given power to deal with the question of prostitution. The law in question absolutely prohibits the running of a house of ill-fame within 700 feet of a school, church or public meeting place and provides a fine and penalty for each offense. The law further provides that after notice has been given, outside the 700-foot limit, the law provides that such places shall be entirely under municipal supervision. Thus the council has absolute power to say whether such places shall be abolished.

Wilkerson Don't See Why.
After Mr. McMillen thanked the council for their indulgence and took his seat, Alderman Wilkerson arose

"To inquire why Mr. McMillen had not agitated the matter at the time he was a member of the council.

"I make no excuses," said Mr. McMillen. "I am afraid I have been dense then, though the question was not brought up. But conditions have been constantly growing worse, and now that action has been demanded by the people, I am glad to do it. I think I can be of help." "I hope so," said the attorney. "I hope we have a better council now than we did then."

"What would become of the \$9,000 or \$10,000 percent from such houses that have gone to the school fund?" asked Mr. Wilkerson.

"I would not advocate the running of houses of ill-fame as a means of raising revenue to support the school," said Mr. McMillen.

"You have only 350 names out of 12,000 people," said Mr. Wilkerson.

"If the council thinks it necessary